Pending Schemes of North Eastern Region

578. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes of the North Eastern States pending with her Ministry;

(b) since how long these are pending;

(c) the reasons for not according approval to these schemes; and

(d) by when these are likely to be cleared for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) In order to provide suitable infrastructure and basic amenities in the urban areas of the North Eastern States including Sikkim, Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is implementing projects/ schemes since 2001-02, in the urban areas of NER, under 10% lumpsum provision of the total Plan Budget of the Ministry separately earmarked for this purpose. Under this programme, individual projects related to housing, slum upgradation/development and employment generation/ poverty alleviation are taken up and sanctioned by the Ministry as per the prescribed norms. During 2005-06, 12 project proposals from the State Governments were received for funding under 10% lumpsum provision of the Budget. The project proposals are examined in the Ministry from technical/financial angle and thereafter approved as per the procedure. The proposals received during the current year are at various stages of processing. The approval of these projects is subject to their fulfilling the requisite criteria as per the existing guidelines.

Reservation of land for economically weaker sections

579. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have directed the development authorities in the metros to reserve 20-25 per cent of the land for economically weaker sections at the affordable prices;